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72. An image transfer member according to claim 43 wherein the catalyst is present in an amount of 0.5-2.5 percent.

73. An image transfer member according to claim 72 wherein the catalyst is present in an amount greater than 1 percent.

74. An image transfer member according to claim 43 wherein the catalyst is about 2.5 times that normally used.

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75. An image transfer member, according to claim 44 wherein the conductive material comprises carbon black.

76. An image transfer member according to claim 29 wherein the outer release layer is suitable for receiving a liquid toner image and for transferring the image to a further surface.

77. An imaging method comprising:
forming a toner image on an imaging surface;
transferring the image to an image transfer member according to any of claims 29-45 or 66-75; and
transferring the image from the image transfer member to a further surface.

78. An imaging method according to claim 77 and including repeating forming a transferring utilizing the same image transfer member.

79. An imaging method according to claim 77 wherein the toner image is a liquid toner image.--

REMARKS

The present application now contains claims 29-45 and 66-79. Claims 29 and 39-45 have been amended. Claims 1-28 and 46-65 have been canceled. Claims 66-79 have been added to further define the invention as originally described in the specification. In general, claims 66-76 have been added to define additional limitations that are not present in the prior art. Claims 77-79 have been added to define an imaging system that utilizes the transfer member of claims 29-45 and 66-75.

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The amendments to the claims have been made in response to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 and in order to clarify the meaning of a transfer member. None of these amendments are made in response to the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 or §103..

As a preliminary matter, applicants note that no list of cited art and no copies of the cited art were included with the office action. Furthermore, while the first reference (Shinozaki) was indicated as being a German reference, the internal referenced made in the rejection clearly indicate that a reference to US patent 5,631,119 was meant.

Claims 29-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being anticipated by Shinozaki. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants submit that Shinozaki does not provide a *prima facie* case of anticipation, since Shinozaki does not provide an image transfer member suitable for the transfer of images. A close reading of Shinozaki shows that the condensation silicone layer is actually removed during the processing and the device used for image transfer does not have any silicone on it at all. (See col. 13, lines 2-5). Furthermore, the blanket is used in an ordinary offset printer and is not used with toner. Applicants note that very thin layers are used in Shinozaki, probably since they are meant to be removed.

Claims 29 and 35-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being anticipated by Moeller. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants submit that Moeller does not provide a *prima facie* case of anticipation, since Moeller does not provide an image transfer member suitable for the transfer of images. In fact Moeller does not provide an image transfer member at all. Furthermore, Moeller does not describe coating with a condensation type silicone. This is especially evident from the commercial types of silicone materials described for use in the device, none of which is a condensation type silicone.

As is quite clear from the disclosure, the coating is meant to act as a release for an adhesive sheet that is laminated to the coating. There is no printing at all in Moeller and no indication that the articles described would be suitable for an intermediate transfer member.

Claims 29-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendrickson. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants submit that Hendrickson does not provide a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Firstly, the claim is to an image transfer member, not to an image forming member (photoreceptor) as in Hendrickson. It is noted in passing that the thicknesses of coating in Hendrickson are so thin (less than 0.3 micrometers) that they are described as at least partly transferred off the image forming member together with the formed image. (col. 8, lines 6-9).


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Exactly why one would want to produce a photoreceptor which was destroyed in the process of transfer of an image from it is not clear. Furthermore, while the image is formed as a liquid toner image, it is no longer a liquid toner image when it is transferred from the photoreceptor, since it is dried on the photoreceptor. (col. 6, lines 26-28). For all these reasons Hendrickson does not teach or make obvious the invention of claim 29.

If the Examiner has any questions and/or suggestions with respect to the application, the undersigned can be reached at toll free number 1 (877) 428-5486. Kindly note that this is a direct line to the undersigned's office in Israel which is 7 hours ahead of Washington. Usually, the undersigned can be reached at this number before 11:00 AM Washington time. Alternatively, the undersigned can be reached by e-mail at fensterco@attglobal.com.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that the application is ready for allowance. Notice to this effect is respectfully awaited.

Respectfully submitted,
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